

February 21, 2019

Written Testimony Of Eva & Wildaliz Bermudez  
In support of the CT Green New Deal & Bill # HB 5002.

Members of the Energy and Technology Committee. Climate change is the most critical issue of our time. Severe weather changes, droughts and displacement of people are issues that are affecting everyone and are occurring more and more often. Due to choices we have made and continue to make. This House Bill 5002 and a Green New Deal are crucial to the residents of this state because it deals with: 1) reducing our state carbon footprint. We have among the worse air quality in New England- this is caused by our carbon footprint which is exacerbated by our high reliance on our single occupancy vehicles. Those who are most impacted by air quality are residents living in cities where highways cut through them. Cities like Hartford where today which has one of the leading asthma rates in the country; 2) the bill is also important b/c it allows for an ample opportunity for a green jobs ladder in CT. CT needs to be at the forefront of this push as it has in the past. We were the first state in the entire country to establish a green bank. This means more working class people would be given opportunities to work in the green economy that is booming. We always talk about more jobs for CT and this is one fast growing market. 3) third this bill supports electrified mass transit which means that there would be better connectivity with our neighbors and calls for overall transit equity; 4) four this bill calls for the protection of energy efficiency funds. As we recall the funds were raided last year and impacted the health and quality of thousands across our state. For this reason and so many others I am in full support of HB 5002 and I strongly urge you to be as well. A green economy means a robust economy for our state of Connecticut. Thank you for your time on this matter.

